Delay in the issuance of letter of intent to HR Strips Mill, Sambalpur, Orissa

3505. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in response to the Central Government's letter No. 4(13)/88-LI, dated 22-9-88 seeking certain information about the issuance of letter of intent for HR strips Mill Sambalpur, the State Government of Orissa had furnished the requisite information in November, 1988 and that the matter is pending decision of the Central Government; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in taking a decision in the matter and by when a decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) The application of the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL) for setting up a 6 lakh tpa composite steel plant in Sambalpur District was rejected in July, 1988 as the policy did not permit the establishment of such plants. Some additional information was sought from IPICOL in Department of Steel's letter No. 4(14)/88-IL [and not 4(13)/88-LI] dated 22-9-1988 which was furnished in November, 1988. However, it was not felt necessary to re-open the case on the basis of the information received.

Denial of promotion to SC/ST persons to Officer's cadre in Allahabad Bank

3506. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Allahabad Bank is holding general promotion processes in the matter of promotion to Officer's cadre without filling the backlog vacancies meant for those belonging to SC/ST communities;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Allahabad Bank has reported that it is holding General Promotion Process from Clerical to Officers' cadre as per its promotion policy, where in 50% of the vacancies are reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as per existing instructions. The question of conducting a Special Promotion test would arise only if the reserved vacancies can not be filled through General Promotion Process.

Reservation of Posts for SC/ST persons after the absorption of the employees of United Industrial Bank with Allahabad Bank

3507. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than two thousand employees of United Industrial Bank Limited have joined Allahabad Bank due to the merger of the bank with the Allahabad Bank;

(b) whether reservation against the strength of SC/ST employees have been provided after the merger; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Employees of the erstwhile United Industrial Bank Limited are treated to have come on transfer to Allahabad Bank on its amalgamation with the latter. In terms of para 3.2 (i) of the Brochure on Reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Services (7th Edition) issued by Department of Personnel and Training reservation do not apply to cases of transfers.

Counting of temporary service period of subordinate cadre SC/ST employees in Allahabad Bank while empanelling for permanent vacancies

3508. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether subordinate cadre SC/ST employees of Allahabad Bank who worked for about 2/3 years in a temporary capacity upto 1980 have been empanelled for permanent vacancies;

(b) if so, whether that temporary service period has been included in their service record; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (c) Allahabad Bank has reported that a panel of general as well as Sheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates was prepared in 1976 for appointment in Peon-cum-Farash cadre against permanent vacancies in the State of West Bengal. Initially some of them belonging to general as well as Scheduled Caste Categories were given appointment for temporary periods during 1976-79 according to exigencies of work. Subsequently, they were given permanent appointment, against permanent vacancies. The Bank has further reported that in accordance with the spirit of the provisions of the Bipartite Settlement dated 19-10-66 as well as the settlement made with the recognised Union of the Bank in this regard, the temporary service periods of the general as well as Scheduled Caste candidates, whose intermittant breaks between two assignments till permanent absorption were not exceeding fifteen days at a time, have been included in their service records.

Non-consideration of Application for transfer of SC/ST employees in Allahabad Bank

3509. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that applications for transfer/posting of SC/ST employees in Allahabad Bank are not considered and, as such, several representations are pending at different controlling offices; and

(b) if so, whether Government will issue orders for posting of Scheduled Tribe employees in their own States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Allahabad Bank has reported that each and every request in respect of transfer/posting of SC/ST Officers/Employees is considered on merit and given effect if matching vacancies are available at the respective places and that necessary instructions have been issued by the bank to its controlling offices to post Scheduled Tribe Award staff near their native places, as far as practicable.

Implementation of All India Promotion Policy by Allahabad Bank

3510. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Allahabad Bank has taken any steps to implement All India promotion policy; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for excluding the state of Gujarat in this respect ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Allahabad Bank has reported that all promotions in the bank are effected strictly in terms of the laid down promotion policies. The reasons for excluding candidates from the State of Gujarat was in accordance with the order passed by the City Civil Court, Ahmedabad restraining appointments in Gujarat circle.

Survey regarding availability of minerals in Indian Water

3511. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any surveys have been conducted to assess the availability of minerals in the Indian waters;

(b) if so, what are the types of minerals available and the extent to which they can be mined economically; and

(c) whether any schemes for development of such mining have been drawn up; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) Surveys in the near shore areas of Orissa, Andhra Pradeh, Kerala and Maharashtra coast have revealed occurrence of monazite, ilmenite, sillimanite, garnet, zircon and rutile.